of the Chief Justices were of the view that 210 working days were alright and no change was called for as Judges put in extra work in the their chambers or at their residence. This was also resolved in the Chief Justices' Conference held in 1987. The Department of Justice has recently requested all High Courts and State Governments to re-examine the annual vacations and working days in High Courts.

The working days/vacations of the subordinate Courts in the States are regulated by the concerned High Courts.

(d) Various steps have been taken by the Government to speed up the disposal of mounting arrears of cases. These include filling up of vacancies of judges, simplification of rules and procedures on the basis of advice and recommendations of expert bodies, like the Law Commission, the Malimath Committee etc. Government have sanctioned an amount of Rs. 502.90 crore for creation of 1734 Fast Track Courts for expeditious disposal of cases involving undertrials on priority.

Utilisation of funds by big Companies

†96. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Department of Company Affairs has directed the Company Registrar to look into the ulilization of funds by 1000 big registered companies;

(b) by when the work is expected to be completed; and

(c) the name of the companies in respect of which the investigation reports have been received?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITELY): (a) to (c) Recently the

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

Government has issued instructions to the Registrars of Companies to undertake technical scrutiny of balance sheets of large sized companies. Unlike inspection and investigation, technical scrutiny of balance sheets is not a one-time exercise, but a continuous process and is undertaken after filing of balance sheets by the companies. Techincal scrutiny includes, among other, verification of utilisation of funds.

Opposition to amendment in criminal Procedure Code

97. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that prominent lawyers and different Bar Associations have come out strongly against Government's decision to amend the Criminal Procedure Code for empowering Courts to admit statements made by witnesses to the Police; and

(b) if so, the objects and reasons for bringing in the proposed reform and the basis on which the lawyers and bar associations are opposing the change?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITELY): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Problems faced by Muslim Women

98. SHRI S. RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether many Muslim women face problem about their maintenance, because as per the Muslim Law the Waqf Board will pay them under certain condition but the Waqf Boards are by and large bankrupt;

(b) whether a two-day session on the "Genuine Problems of Muslim Women and their solution in the light of Shariaha" was recently held in Lucknow in the first week of April; and